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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet	1	of	1	

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/564,170		
Filing Date	January 10, 2006		
First Named Inventor	Volker Krink, et al		
Art Unit	TBD		
Examiner Name	TBD		
Attorney Docket Number	51034.0000		

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Applicant	Class	Subclass
M	6,232,575	5/15/2001	Oakley, Thomas F., et al	219	121.55
M	6,359,251	3/19/2002	Picard, Tate S., et al	219	121.57

	FOREIGN PATENT		<del></del>	
Foreign Patent Document No.	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Applicant	Country	
10263827	10/6/1998	Yashuiro, Asami	JAPAN	
EP 0 697 935	4/21/1999	Couch, R., et al	EUROPE	
DE 195 36 150 C2	athed are provided for any as	Weizel, G., et al	GERMANY	<u>.                                    </u>
DD 55437			GERMANY	·
cutting with high exit speed or produced by a pressure shie	of the plasma jet. In front of a lid. This does not solve the pr	gas discharge chamber, a pre	essure drop is	
DD 132247		Fronlich H.	GERMANY	
Description: A method is dis hypersonic nozzles. Howeve	closed for mixing of gases. F	or example, for plasma cutting	and using	
DE 201 21 641.8	3/20/2003		GERMANY	
which the volume flow of the supplying a plasma torch wi control means controls the volume flow control alone of	gas, mixed gas, or gas mixtu th a gas or mixed gas or gas volume flow of the gas or m does not allow for adequate	re is controlled. An arrangem mixture to the plasma torch a lixed gas or gas mixture. Ho quality of cutting, and can	ent is provided for and a volume flow wever, the use of lead to unreliable	
	DE 195 36 150 C2 Description: A means and marrangement consisting of a  DD 55437 Description: The document cutting with high exit speed of produced by a pressure shie generated because the mixing produced by a pressure shie generated by a pressure s	DE 195 36 150 C2  Description: A means and method are provided for gas coarrangement consisting of a proportional valve, a pressure of the plasma jet. In front of a produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the produced because the mixing ratio is very restricted.  DD 132247  Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. Fhypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratio is very restricted.  DE 201 21 641.8  3/20/2003  Description: A method is provided for supplying a plasma which the volume flow of the gas, mixed gas, or gas mixtu supplying a plasma torch with a gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas or gas or mixed gas or gas or gas or mixed gas or gas o	DE 195 36 150 C2  Description: A means and method are provided for gas control of a plasma torch. Gas fi arrangement consisting of a proportional valve, a pressure sensor and a shield in the plasma generated because the mixing ratio is very restricted.  DD 132247  Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. For example, for plasma cutting hypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratios required cannot be produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the problem that gas mixtures cannagemented because the mixing ratio is very restricted.  DD 132247  Fronlich, H.  Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. For example, for plasma cutting hypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratios required cannot be produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the problem that gas mixtures cannagemented because the mixing ratio is very restricted.  DD 132247  Fronlich, H.  Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. For example, for plasma cutting hypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratios required cannot be produced for supplying a plasma torch with a gas, mixed gas, which the volume flow of the gas, mixed gas or gas mixture is controlled. An arrangement supplying a plasma torch with a gas or mixed gas or gas mixture to the plasma torch accontrol means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas mixture. How volume flow control alone does not allow for adequate quality of cutting, and can piercing of the material to be cut, the formation of dross, and major deviations in a general part of the material to be cut, the formation of dross, and major deviations in a general part of the material to be cut, the formation of dross, and major deviations in a general part of the plasma torch with a gas or mixed gas or gas	10263827  10/6/1998  Yashuiro, Asami  JAPAN  EP 0 697 935  4/21/1999  Couch, R., et al  EUROPE  DE 195 36 150 C2  Weizel, G., et al  GERMANY  Description: A means and method are provided for gas control of a plasma torch. Gas flow is set by an arrangement consisting of a proportional valve, a pressure sensor and a shield in the plasma torch.  DD 55437  Description: The document relates to a method for mixing a working gas and an additional gas in plasma cutting with high exit speed of the plasma jet. In front of a gas discharge chamber, a pressure drop is produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the problem that gas mixtures cannot be reproducibly generated because the mixing ratio is very restricted.  DD 132247  Fronlich, H.  GERMANY  Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. For example, for plasma cutting and using hypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratios required cannot be produced.  DE 201 21 641.8  3/20/2003  GERMANY  Description: A method is provided for supplying a plasma torch with a gas, mixed gas, or gas mixture in which the volume flow of the gas, mixed gas, or gas mixture is controlled. An arrangement is provided for supplying a plasma torch with a gas or mixed gas or gas mixture. However, the use of volume flow control alone does not allow for adequate quality of cutting, and can lead to unreliable piercing of the material to be cut, the formation of dross, and major deviations in angle that exceed

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This collection of information is required by 37 CDR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 USC 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. this collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending on the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should b sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.